PLANS

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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2 MARCH 1973

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4.5 (C)

COMMENT: DURING THE WEEK OF 26 FEBRUARY SANTIAGO NEWSPAPERS REPORTED A 2'6 FEBRUARY INCIDENT IN WHICH A MOB ATTACKED A CHILEAN NATIONAL POLICE (CARABINERO) COMMISARIAT BUILDING IN LLANQUINUE IN THE SOUTH OF CHILE BECAUSE OF THE ARREST OF A MEMBER OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUIONTARY LEFT (MIR). THE MIR MEMBER, SERGIO G O M E Z FLORES, WAS ARRESTED FOR PROVOKING PUBLIC DISORDER AND INSULTING CARABINERO OFFICIALS DURING HIS

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE 

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INDICATED THAT

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EFFORTS TO LEAD A COUNTERDEMONSTRATION AGAINST AN OPPOSITION POLITICAL PROGRAM. AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT, TEN CARABINERO OFFICIALS WERE WOUNDED, AND THEIR BUILDING WAS RANSACKED BEFORE THE CROWD WAS DISPERSED WITH TEAR GAS GRENADES.)

1.5 (c)

GOMEZ WAS A KNOWN MIK LEADER. THAT, BECAUSE GOMEZ WAS INSULTING TO THE CARABINEROS BEFORE AND DURING HIS DETENTION, HE WAS TREATED ROUGHLY BY THE CARABINEROS. GOMEZ USED THIS TREATMENT TO INCITE THE CROWD WAITING OUTSIDE THE CARABINERO COMMISARIAT TO ATTACK. THE LOCAL COMMANDER, MAJOR RENE ASTORGA, ISSUED A SPECIFIC ORDER PROHIBITING THE USE OF FIREARMS FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN FIRING WARNING SHOTS INTO THE AIR. THE CROWD SUBSEQUENTLY ENTERED AND RANSACKED THE BUILDING, BEFORE IT, WAS DISPERSED BY TEAR GAS. FIVE MEN, KNOWN BY CARABINEROS TO BE EXTREME LEFTISTS, WERE DETAINED.

3. THERE HAS BEEN A STRONG REACTION TO THE LLANQUIHUE INCIDENT AMONG MOST CARABINEROS IN SANTIAGO. MOST OF THE OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT A CONTINUING PRECEDENT OF



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(classification)

(dissem controls)

PROHIBITIONS AGAINST ANY VIGOROUS CARABINERO ACTIONS IN THE FACE OF DIRECT ATTACKS BY EXTREMIST GROUPS. MANY OFFICERS FEEL THAT JOSE MARIA SEPULVED A GALINDO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CARABINEROS, SHOULD FORCEFULLY REQUEST THAT THE CARABINEROS BE ALLOWED TO REACT FIRMLY AGAINST DIRECT ATTACKS IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE CLEARLY TO EXTREMISTS THAT COMMENT: DURING THE VIOLENCE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. PAST YEAR, CARABINEROS HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE CONVINCED OF THE NEED FOR VIGOROUS POLICE ACTIONS, WHICH THEY FEEL WOULD IMPROVE THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE CARABINEROS AS A CAPABLE POLICE FORCE AND HENCE IMPROVE THEIR MORALE. HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH THE CARABINEROS BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ACT MORE FORCEFULLY, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT GENERAL SEPULVEDA WILL CONFRONT GENERAL CARLOS PRATS OR ANYONE ELSE ON THIS ISSUE. IF ORDERS FOR STRONG ACTION ARE FORTHCOMING, THEY WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO COME DIRECTLY FROM GENERAL PRATS AND NOT AS COMMENT: ACCORDING TO A DEMAND FROM SEPULVEDA.) "EL MERCURIO," DIRECTOR GENERAL SEPULVEDA MET WITH GENERAL PRATS ON 28 FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS THE LLANQUIHUE AFFAIR. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, SEPULVED A COMMENTED THAT THE CARABINEROS

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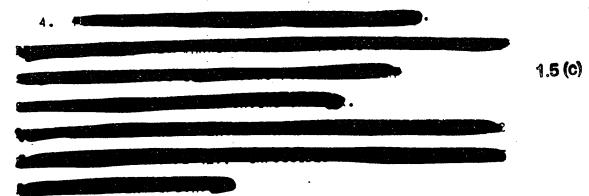


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WOULD ACT FIRMLY IN THE FUTURE TO PUT DOWN VIOLENCE OF THIS NATURE. SEPULVEDA ALSO PRAISED THE ACTIONS BY THE CARABINEROS IN LLANQUIHUE, SAYING THAT THEIR RESTRAINT PREVENTED A MASSACRE FROM DEVELOPING.)



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